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Blunt, Executive Branch Discuss Earthquake Response Plans

By Spence Jackson, Governor Blunt's Communications Director

In December, Gov. Matt Blunt met with all state department directors for an earthquake preparedness briefing. The meeting was the culmination of several weeks of preparation by all cabinet level officials to coordinate their individual earthquake response plans to ensure the state is prepared to respond to a significant earthquake.

"In order for Missouri to be prepared for, respond to and recover from a catastrophic earthquake, federal, state and local plans must compliment one another," Blunt said. "I am pleased that our state agencies have responded to this challenge to plan for a natural disaster of this magnitude. My administration is committed to protecting the safety of all Missourians and will continue to work diligently to plan and prepare for the worst possible scenarios."

Earlier this fall, Blunt directed the Department of Public Safety and State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) to review existing emergency response plans and to make suggestions for improvement to a New Madrid Earthquake Disaster Response. The review, led by Public Safety Director Mark James, found existing plans to be inadequate when faced with the statewide devastation an earthquake the size of 7.6 or higher could cause.

"The devastating Gulf Coast hurricanes taught us that the unimaginable can happen at anytime," Blunt said. "I am committed to making preparation for and response to natural disasters one of the top priorities of state government. Missourians deserve the reassurance of knowing that their state leaders are going to great lengths to prepare and respond as quickly and efficiently as possible. We have taken great strides to overcome the lack of preparation from the past and I look forward to working with local officials and first responders to put a strong coordinated plan in place."

Blunt has also ordered all state agencies to examine their earthquake plans and to revise any out-dated material to ensure efficient

Continued on page 4



SEMA Director Ron Reynolds, flanked by DPS Director Mark James and Governor Blunt responds to a reporter's question.

Table of Contents

Taum Sauk Response....	2
Director's Report.....	3
4 Corners Meeting.....	3
EQ Meetings.....	5
Earthquake Awareness..	6
Crisis Communications..	7
Good News Stories.....	8
Spring Weather.....	11
Training Calendar.....	12
Hurricane Response.....	13
Homeland Security Info..	18
FY'06 HS Grant Info.....	24
Mitigation Newsletter	
MERC Newsletter	

Blunt, State Agencies Respond to Taum Sauk Dam Failure

Governor Matt Blunt signed two Executive Orders in response to the early morning, December 14, 2005, dam failure at the Taum Sauk Reservoir in Reynolds County. The Executive orders freed state agency resources and activated the Missouri National Guard to respond to local requests for assistance. Blunt arrived at the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) to direct state agency response and visited the site via Missouri National Guard helicopter.



At 5:24 a.m., December 14, a 600-foot breach on the northwest side of the retention facility of the upper reservoir of the Taum Sauk Hydroelectric Plant released 1.5 billion gallons of stored water. Floodwaters inundated the Johnson Shut-Ins State Park operated by the Missouri

Department of Natural Resources, Division of State Parks. The park superintendent's house was destroyed and the family swept away by the flooding. The family was rescued and taken to various hospitals. The Taum Sauk Hydroelectric Plan is owned and operated by Ameren UE of St. Louis.

Ameren reported the breach in the dam as starting at 5:24 a.m., and most of the reservoir drained between 5:30 a.m. and 5:40 a.m. The lower reservoir was overtopped by the flow of the east fork of the Black River. This lower reservoir is designed to be overtopped. However, City of Lesterville, as a precaution evacuated 100-150 people to higher ground.

Gary Rainwater, Chief Executive Officer of Ameren, stated that preliminary findings indicated that an automatic pumping system pushed too much water into the impoundment. The water overflowed the top of the dam, and weakened the structure until about 600 feet of the Northwest wall collapsed allowing the water to escape down the west side of Proffit Mountain into Johnson's Shut-In State Park and the east fork of the Black River.

Department of Natural Resources Parks reported the majority of the damage was in the area adjacent to the East Fork of the Black River, which flows through the park. Extensive damage was reported to the superintendent's residence, the campground, the park's water plant and the boardwalk to the shut-ins, the park's signature natural feature. The park store and office were flooded but are still standing. An assessment will also evaluate the impact from the flooding to the park's natural and cultural resources, and any environmental issues.

The Taum Sauk Reservoir was built in 1963 and has been used as a 'peaking' unit to supplement energy sources as needed. The water flows down two mile-long tunnels within Proffit Mountain and turns hydroelectric turbine generators to produce electricity. In the overnight, the generators are used as pumps to push the water from the lower reservoir back up to the upper reservoir. The plant has operated safely for the past forty-two years. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) licenses the dam operation. It is licensed for fifty years at a time. The re-licensure for Taum Sauk started earlier this year.

SEMA activated the State Emergency Operations Center. State Agencies responding included: Public Safety, Highway Patrol, the Water Patrol, SEMA area coordinators, the National Guard provided helicopters for Governor Blunt's on-site survey. The Department of Natural Resources' Dam Safety, Environmental Emergency Response, and Parks Divisions. The Departments of Conservation, Health and Senior Services, Transportation, Social Services, and Agriculture. Voluntary Agencies responding included: Salvation Army sent an emergency canteen truck, the American Red Cross opened two shelters, and the Reynolds County Citizen Corps activated.



Director's Report

Planners in SEMA, the Department of Public Safety and other State Agencies put in a lot of hours both updating the State All Hazard Plan, and writing an annex for a catastrophic earthquake response. Before the annex is approved, it will

be shared with local emergency management directors to make sure response capabilities are shared and to help local EMDs with their catastrophic planing. Shelter and evacuation

information will continue to be a major part of the catastrophic plan.

Governor Blunt told reporters, "Missouri's earthquake response will continue focus on providing immediate care for citizens who might be impacted by an earthquake. That translates to physical, emotional and finally rebuilding their lives."

FEMA now says citizens must be prepared to take care of themselves. Missouri is now going to encourage citizens to have disaster kits, water, food and medication for at least 4 days (96 hours). As we have seen in earthquakes in other countries and depending on the time of the year, large magnitude aftershocks may continue for days and weeks, which may hamper initial response efforts.

At a recent Central United States Earthquake Consortium meeting, FEMA briefed on their catastrophic planning goals of saving lives, protecting critical infrastructure, protect national security, pre-identifying federal resources and coordination among the 8 earthquake states. FEMA is developing catastrophic plan fundamentals, catastrophic planning training, creating a catastrophic

toolbox and developing contact and resource lists.

There are several events that I want to make you aware of and hope you will support and/or attend.

Earthquake Awareness activities are planned for the February 2-8, 2006. There will be events in Jefferson City, St. Louis and tentatively Cape Girardeau. Information will be posted to the SEMA Homepage in January.

SEMA's Crisis Communica-

tions Conference will be February 9-11, 2006. I encourage you to participate in this conference. Information is posted on the SEMA homepage.

March is Severe Spring Weather month featuring the Statewide Tornado Drill at 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 14. Information will be posted to the SEMA homepage in February.

See you at the Spring Conference!



AR, KS, OK, MO Share Response Lessons

Highlights of Four Corners Conference

Over 65 emergency managers attended the conference – more than half from Missouri. Severe weather response, local resources, and common disaster concerns prompted the emergency managers in the border counties in Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas and Oklahoma to form the Four Corners Conference, Dec. 8-9, in Branson.

State and local emergency responder organizations in Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Kansas gave presentations based on lessons learned.

Missouri Department of Public Safety's Homeland Security Coordinator Paul Fennwald (below) spoke on Missouri's Homeland Security Regionalization initiatives.

Missouri plans to use homeland security funds for a regional response to both terrorism and natural disasters, which the state feels will accomplish two positive outcomes.



Representatives from Arkansas spoke on Hurricane Katrina/Rita Relief Efforts, and Industry and Avian Influenza Planning Issues. This presentation was followed by a panel discussion on Emergency Public Information in the Health/Bioterrorism venue.

Oklahoma Officials spoke on NIMS Compliance. The National Weather Service Weather Warning Coordinators from Springfield, Tulsa and Wichita on weather forecasting. Missouri Depart. of Mental Health's Jenny Wiley spoke on Special Needs/Mental Health Planning Issues in Disaster Management. Joplin/Jasper County MO Emergency Management Director Keith Stammer participated in a panel discussion on local resource databases.

Blunt on Planning from page 1

and practical concepts are implemented after lessons learned from hurricanes Rita and Katrina. Specifically, Blunt wants state agencies to focus on local evacuation plans, the construction of emergency shelters, access to medical treatment, housing for evacuees, security for dangerous areas to combat looters and effective



DPS PLANNER MEETING - LEFT: Water Patrol's Hans Huenink and Col. Rad Talburt, State Fire Marshal Randy Cole and Greg Carrell. ABOVE: SEMA's Chuck May and Steve Besemer, Highway Patrol's Major Penn and Greg Kindell. BELOW: Former EQ Program Manager Ed Gray (Center) chats with Missouri' National Guard's John Carrier and Regina Kilmer. LEFT BELOW: SEMA's new earthquake program manager Steve Besemer.

communication and coordination between local, state, federal and private relief agencies.

The briefing was a unique opportunity for all state departments to discuss the plans they have written for major disasters. Over the past weeks, divisions within Public Safety, including the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), the Adjutant General's Office, the Highway Patrol, the Water Patrol and the Fire Marshal's Office, have been meeting to integrate their individual response plans into a more universal model, following Department of Homeland Security's National Response Plan.



agencies will work with local governments in the New Madrid region to develop a coordinated plan to deal with a possible natural disaster of that magnitude to help avoid problems witnessed in the Gulf Coast.

"The Governor's briefing was a showcase of clear communication," said Mark James, Public Safety Director. "We put our heads together after working as individual departments. Both are necessary to be fully prepared for a disaster so great as to warrant the resources of the entire state, neighboring states and federal assistance."

State departments will continue to work with federal agencies, local government and non-profit organizations to maximize Missouri's response to a massive earthquake. Much of this work, including communication and drilling is handled through SEMA. SEMA and State

SEMA also works closely with the Governor's Missouri Disaster Relief Partnership (State Citizen Council). For more information on the Partnership, visit their Web site at <http://sema.dps.mo.gov/CC%20Webs/CCstatecouncil.asp>. Information on the specific resources that both government and non profit agencies have pledged to prepare for, respond to and recover from a disaster can be found on the database located at <http://sema.dps.mo.gov/CC%20Webs/CC%20images%20&%20files/Matrix.xls>.

Earthquake Meetings Stress State, Local, Citizen Preparedness

Southeast Missouri citizens, local officials and first responders are taking advantage of three earthquake preparedness events to learn how Missouri's State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) is preparing for an earthquake along the New Madrid Seismic Zone. Town Meeting "Earthquake 101" in Caruthersville, a round table discussion hosted by Congresswoman Emerson in Cape Girardeau, and the Missouri Seismic Safety Commission's Public Awareness Committee meeting discuss 2006 Earthquake Awareness Week, Feb 3-8 Events.

"A major earthquake along the New Madrid Seismic Zone would disrupt services, public infrastructure, and most importantly the lives and livelihood of Missourians. Southeast Missouri citizens have the right to know how Missouri is planning, preparing, and coordinating with federal, state and local governments to respond to and protect our citizens," said Mark James, Department of Public Safety Director.

Citizens in Caruthersville and Cape Girardeau learned that Missouri and eight sister states with an earthquake risk will be participating in a national earthquake/hazmat exercise on the Mississippi River in June 2007. The 2007 Spills of National Significance exercise federal players include the US Coast Guard, the US Environment Protection Agency (EPA), and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Missouri Congresswoman Jo Ann Emerson and Missouri Senator Jim Talent called for a national earthquake exercise to test federal, state, and local response plans to avoid an unprepared response to a catastrophic disaster.

Congresswoman Jo Ann Emerson's meeting in Cape Girardeau featured SEMA's Director Ronald M. Reynolds highlighting Missouri's earthquake preparedness activities. Missouri State Senator Jason Crowell also participated in the roundtable discussion. State Hazard Mitigation Officer Randy Scrivner, and SEMA Area E Coordinator Mark Winkler of Cape Girardeau attended the roundtable discussion and were available to answer questions.

Over 100 Bootheel citizens attended a Town Hall meeting "Earthquake 101" in Caruthersville in November. The event was co-

sponsored by SEMA, Central United Earthquake Consortium (CUSEC), and the United States Geological Survey (USGS). Citizens learned about current USGS earthquake research in the New Madrid Seismic Zone. They also heard presentations by SEMA's Operations Branch Chief Steve Moody, SEMA Area E Coordinator Mark Winkler, and



Caruthersville Emergency Management Director Charlie Jones



on earthquake planning and preparedness issues. SEMA's new Earthquake Program Manager Steve Bessemer also attended the Town Hall meeting.

Eight members of the Missouri Seismic Safety Commission attended the Public Awareness Committee meeting for 2006 Earthquake Awareness Week activities. A tentative agenda is available in this newsletter.

At A Glance

New Directors

Ken Sanchez was reappointed Carter County EMD.

Chief **John P. Trout** EMD for Frontenac (St. Louis County).

Congratulations

Scott Cordero Warning Coordination Meteorologist for the Memphis, TN, Weather Forecast Office will be the Meteorologist In Charge at Weather Forecast Office in Corpus Christi, TX.

Charles A. "Drew" Juden, 48 of Sikeston, is director of Public Safety for the City of Sikeston has been appointed to the Missouri Seismic Safety Commission. Juden attended Southeast Missouri State University. He is a certified fire instructor, police baton instructor, police performance conditioning instructor and hazardous materials instructor. Juden's appointment is subject to Senate confirmation for a term ending on July 1, 2008.

Retirements

Bob Lang EMD for Howard County retired December 31, 2005. ENJOY!

Condolences to

Mindy McDaniel, FEMA Liaison from Kansas City on the death of her mother.

Dan Trokey, former SEMA Radiological Emergency Planner, on the death of his father.

Seismic Safety Commission's Public Awareness Committee Discusses EQAW



Attending the Public Awareness Committee meeting on 2006 Earthquake Awareness Week activities are from left: Drew Juden, Greg Hempen, Ex-Officio member Sue Evers of FEMA Region VII in Kansas City, Dr. Phillip Gould, MSSC Chairwoman Susan Green, Mark Hasheider, Don Landon, Jeffery Garnatz, and Ted Pruess. Other ex-officio members at the meeting but not pictured are Dave Hoffman, retired Department of Natural Resources (DNR) geologist currently working with the University of Missouri – Rolla geology department, and Jim Palmer, DNR geologist, and SEMA's Ed Gray, former earthquake program manager. Photo by Steve Besemer, SEMA's Earthquake Program Manager.

The 2006 Earthquake Awareness Week is February 3-8, 2006. The Governor will sign a Proclamation, which will be prominently displayed during all earthquake awareness activities before being presented to an organization active in Earthquake Awareness.

"Missouri has an earthquake threat along the New Madrid Seismic Zone in the Southeastern most part of our state. A major earthquake would have a devastating impact on our citizens and our businesses. I urge citizens to take the Earthquake Awareness Activities seriously and make measures to protect themselves, their homes and their businesses from an earthquake," Governor Matt Blunt said.

Tentative 2006 Activities include:

- The Department of Natural Resources' Division of Land Survey and Geology's earthquake exhibit at the Truman Building in Jefferson City.
- **Feb. 3** (Friday a.m.): Former Commissioner Phyllis Steckel is hosting "Earthquakes Mean Business Seminar."
- **Feb 3** (afternoon) Missouri Seismic Safety Commission meeting.
- **Feb 3** Central United Earthquake Consortium (CUSEC) Seismic Advisory meeting TBA.
- **Feb 4** (Saturday) Hands on Exhibits for children and adults at the St. Louis Science Center from 10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- **Feb 4-5** (Saturday & Sunday) Earthquake Workshop for Teachers with CUE credits in St. Louis. Teachers must pre-register with the Department of Natural Resources for this first offering of the class, which includes lectures and a field trip.
- An awareness event in Cape Girardeau.
- **Feb 6** The United States Geological Service (USGS) will host a St. Louis seismic mapping project meeting.

Blunt Appoints MSSC Members

Gov. Matt Blunt made six appointments to the Seismic Safety Commission.

This commission is not a first responder in the event of a manmade or natural disaster. However, the commission makes recommendations regarding earthquake planning and response.

The new and reappointed commissioners are:

- **Jeffery N. Garnatz**, Columbia, is a manager at Shelter Insurance (Insurance).

- **Dr. Phillip L. Gould P. E.**, St. Louis, is a civil engineering professor at Washington University (Electrical Engineering).

- **Dr. Robert B. Herrmann**, St. Louis, is a geophysics professor at Saint Louis University (Seismology).

- **Charles A. Juden**, Sikeston, is director of Public Safety for the City of Sikeston (Local Government).

- **Donald D. Landon**, Springfield, is an emeritus professor of sociology at Missouri State University (American Red Cross).

- **Michael A. Marx**, St. Louis, is the superintendent of engineering and maintenance for the Ameren Corporation (Public Utilities).

- The Honorable **Otto Bean Jr.**, Holcomb, state representative District 163 representing Butler, Dunklin, and Stoddard Counties.

- The Honorable **Robert "Rob" Mayer**, Dexter, state senator District 25 representing Butler, Dunklin, New Madrid, Pemiscot, Ripley, Stoddard and Wayne Counties.

Current commissioners are: Chairwoman **Susan Green**, **Gregory L. Hempen**, **Mark Hasheider**, **Theodore Pruess**, and **Thomas C. Roeseler**. More appointments will be made soon.

Highlights of Fall Homeland Security Conference

Photos by Ricky Presberry and Jack Kammerer



Crisis Communications Conference Set for February 9-11

Over 200 communications experts are expected to attend the Crisis Communications Conference Feb 9-11, 2006, in Osage Beach, MO. And, as in past conferences, a continuing education class will be offered to telecommunicators/dispatchers.

Registration begins Thursday afternoon, February 9. The Missouri Emergency Preparedness Association will have a board meeting from 3-5 p.m.

The conference begins Friday promptly at 10 a.m. with opening remarks. The keynote speakers Lisa Dodson of Texas and Jack Vernado of Louisiana will discuss Hurricane Katrina Communications Challenges.

Other conference speakers and topics are: Richard Stump (SEMA Communications Officer) and John Myers (IL EMA Communications Officer) on Auxiliary Communications Service; Jim Biggerstaff (Mo State Highway Patrol) on Interoperability Updates; Jim Kramper, Mike Hudson and Steve Runnels (NWS) on the 2 A.M. Evansville Tornado; R. D. Porter and Bill Pippins on 911/TERT/911 Addressing; Roger Volk, George Schindler and Don Moore on MEPN- Six Meter Packet, and Duane Nichols (SEMA Deputy Director) on Regionalization and Communications Interoperability.

Telecommunicators/dispatchers will have the opportunity to earn 4 credit hours for attending the IS-700 NIMS for Telecommunicators training conducted by Pat Gilchrist and Gregory Ruff of the Government Training Institute/MARC. Both a morning and an afternoon session will be offered on Friday, December 10. Each class is limited to 50 people and lunch is provided.

The deadline to register for the Conference is January 20, 2006. Please fax or mail your conference registration to Debbie Sherman (Communications Conference Coordinator) c/o SEMA, P. O. Box 116, Jefferson City, MO 65101-0116 or fax to (573) 634-7966.

Tan-Tar-A has a special communications conference hotel rate of \$78 per night. It is your responsibility to make your own hotel reservations by calling (573) 348-3131 before January 10, 2006.

Good News Stories....

Wentzville CERT Helps Search of 2 year-old

**By Mark Rosenblum
Wentzville CERT**

It was a cheerful ending to a terrifying situation that began late afternoon of October 3. A two-year-old Wentzville, Missouri toddler was found after he had wandered off from his home around 5:30 that afternoon, while his mother was planting flowers in their yard. She had looked up and realized that her son and the family dog were missing. She immediately called the Wentzville Police Department. The dog returned, without the child, about 45 minutes later, covered in brush.

Wentzville CERT members were deployed after EMA Director Phil Yocum announced the situation around 6:15 p.m. "The CERT members were in the middle of their disaster medical operations class," said Yocum. "They had yet to complete the 20- hour program, and were basically thrown into a search and rescue mission."

The boy was found around 1:00 in the morning in the woods nearly 2 miles from the family home in the Bedford Falls subdivision near Highway 61, in Wentzville. The surrounding area is a combination of open fields, woods, hills, and new subdivisions that are still under construction. He had suffered only some minor scrapes and bug bites.

More than 150 volunteers, including police and rescue personnel searched the neighborhood and surrounding woods and fields. Searchers were at the end of their search pattern and were just about to turn back when they heard a coyote howling. They followed the sound and

found the boy sitting under a tree, sobbing.

Searchers included members of the Wentzville Fire Protection District, Wentzville Police, Wentzville Community Emergency Response Team, O'Fallon Fire Protection District, Central County Fire & Rescue, Cottleville Fire Protection District, the St. Charles County SWAT team, St. Charles County Sheriff's Deputies and Moscow Mills police. Volunteers using ATVs and a police helicopter aided in the search.

Yocum says of his CERT members in training: "They performed professionally, and did an outstanding job. In the end, the youngster was found unharmed, and that's all that matters."

583 KC Area Schools Receive Weather Radios

By the Metro Emergency Management Committee

The Kansas City Metropolitan Emergency Managers Committee (MEMC) at Mid-America Regional Planning Commission (MARC) made sure 583 schools in KC metro 8-county area received NOAA radios as part of community alert project. The Community Alert project will distribute 100,000 weather alert radios in the Kansas City eight-county metro area. The MEMC partnered with local Price Chopper stores, and Midland Radio to provide NOAA All Hazard Radios for the reduced price of \$29.95. These radios are available at all participating local Price Choppers. For more information on the Project Community Alert program: <http://public-alert-radio.nws.noaa.gov/proginfor.htm>.

Clarence Holds Tabletop

The City of Clarence population 915 (on Highway 36 in Shelby County) conducted a hazardous materials tabletop exercise. The scenario involved a natural gas pipeline rupture under railroad tracks, a train derailment within the city limits. Utilizing the Emergency Response Guidebooks to determine the effects of the chemical release on the city's population, it was decided to evacuate the entire city.

In addition to the mayor, 18 people participated in the tabletop including first responders, city, county, and school officials.

Ste. Gen Holds Tabletop

Ste. Genevieve City and County conducted a tornado tabletop exercise. Many city and county officials and agencies participated in the tabletop exercise stating the exercise was beneficial and they were glad they had the opportunity to meet with other responders outside of a real response. Because only 2 of 8 fire departments were able to participate in the tabletop, EMD Art Armbruster modified the scenario prior to the exercise.

Region D Establishes Committees

Newly elected officers of the Region D Interoperable Communications committee are: Chairman Udell Mentola (Dade County 911 Director), Secretary Lisa McCool (McDonald County 911 Director). The committee is updating frequency information from all 18 counties in Region D and plans to write a Regional Response Plan in January using the ICTAP as the model.

The WMD/HSRT Region D meeting will have an ICS Overhead Team developed in 2006. Joye McEllwee distributed an updated Region D WMD/Terrorism Plan at the meeting.

NWS Initiative Aimed at School Safety

By Mike Hudson, NWS Pleasant Hill, MO

The National Weather Service has initiated a new partnership designed to place tone alert radios in schools. The Weather Service partnered with the Mid-American Regional Planning Commission's Metropolitan Emergency Managers Committee to place over 500 tone alert radios in Missouri and Kansas Counties, which make up the Greater Kansas City area.

NOAA Public Alert Radios are designed to signal the dangerous weather conditions and give safety information. The special radios feature 24/7 capability and battery back-up, the radio is always on guard to alert school personnel to severe weather conditions, terrorist threats, and other emergencies in your immediate area, even when other communication lines are unavailable. Nationally the school distribution program is sponsored by: the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/Citizen Corps, the U.S. Department of Commerce/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the U.S. Department of Education/Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools.

Once programmed, the radio can be an important part of a school's emergency response and crisis management plan.

Planning for Safety How Schools Can Prepare For Disasters

Preparedness for everyone (including schools, businesses and families) begins with a plan of action. Each school should have a crisis plan in partnership with public safety agencies, including law enforcement and fire, health, mental health and local emergency preparedness agencies. This plan should address traditional crises and emergencies such as fires, severe weather, school shootings and accidents, as well as biological, radiological, chemical and terrorist activities.

Plans should address the fundamentals of safety, including alerts and warnings, adequate staff and student education and training in preparedness and first aid, evacuation and sheltering in place procedures, and communication processes to parents.

The plan should include determinations for whether and when the school will release students. For example, children should not be allowed to wait for the bus during a lightning storm. During heavy rain, with flash flood watches or warnings, schools should have written guidelines about the release of students. School buses could lose control in as little as six inches of water, which means releasing students can potentially put them at greater risk than keeping them safe in school.

Additionally, school district crisis plans should address the unique circumstances and needs of individual schools. Districts are encouraged to develop a separate plan for each school building, which should address four major areas: prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery. And finally, schools need to train, practice, and drill according to the plan. Documents on a shelf don't work in a crisis.

For more information on school emergency plans visit: <http://www.ed.gov/emergencyplan>

Circle your calendars... Spring Conference Is April 16-19, 2006

The 18th Annual Spring Conference will be April 16-19, 2006 at Osage Beach, MO. The State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) and the Missouri Emergency Preparedness Association's conference theme is "Emergency Management: Growing with Experience."

Tentative General session topics Include: "Shut Up, Quit Whining, Enjoy Your Life," "All Hazards vs Homeland Security," "Integrated Operations – NIMS in Action," "Emergency Operations Center Coordination & Operations to Katrina/Rita Response," "London Bus/Subway Bombings," and "EMS – How Our Past Impacts Our Future."

Tentative Breakouts include: "Lessons Learned – Bus/Subway Bombings in London," "Boone County Urban Search & Rescue Katrina Operations," "PAM Exercise Lessons," "Praxair Chemical Plant Explosion in St. Louis," "National Incident Management Systems (NIMS) Compliance Issues," "HazMat Transportation and Safety," "Pandemic – The Greatest Threat in Our Lifetime," "Special Needs Populations in a Disaster," "EMAC 101," and "NWS Information and Role in Hazard Operations Planning."

Conference information will be mailed and posted to the SEMA Homepage <http://sema.dps.mo.gov/semapage.htm> by mid-December.



SEMA RECOGNIZED by the National Guard Association for supporting the Missouri National Guard and Army Reserve business partnership - keeping citizen soldier's jobs during deployment. Pictured seated are Department of Public Safety Director Mark James, SEMA Director Ron Reynolds, Missouri Adjutant General BG King Sidwell. Standing are Paul Fennwald (MO Homeland Security Coordinator), Roger Connell (SEMA Floodplain Manager and retired Missouri National Guardsman), SEMA Deputy Director Duane Nichols, Bob Bailey (SEMA Area Coordinator and retired Missouri National Guardsman), John Campbell (SEMA Assistant Radiological Emergency Manager and active Missouri National Guardsman), and Richard Grant (National Guard Assn. officer and retired Missouri National Guardsman).

Callaway Nuclear Plant Returns to Service Following Refueling and Maintenance

The Callaway Nuclear Plant, located near Fulton, returned to service on Nov. 21, after shutting down Sept. 17 for refueling, maintenance and major equipment upgrades.

The outage of 63 days and 13 hours set a new world record for the shortest time it took to conduct an outage and replace of four steam generators — the giant “boilers” that produce steam for generating electricity. The previous record was 64 days and 17 hours, set by the South Texas Project in October 2002.

Refueling outages at the 1,147-megawatt plant occur approximately every 18 months, and this was the plant's 14th refueling since it began operating in 1984.

As in past refueling outages, thousands of maintenance activities, modifications, inspections and tests were performed throughout the plant. About 3,000 people worked on the project, including more than 2,000 contractors and Ameren employees from other locations who joined the plant's regular staff to help handle the large volume of work.

Replacement of the plant's four steam generators was the biggest job due to their huge size. Measuring 70 feet tall and 17 feet in diameter at their widest part, and weighing 400 tons each, the new steam generators feature the latest technology for efficiency and reliability. Another major upgrade performed during the outage involved replacing all four turbine rotors with new, more-efficient models. Each turbine rotor is 35 feet long. Three are 15 feet wide and weigh 164 tons, while the other is eight feet wide and weighs 70 tons. The rotors spin by steam pressure to turn an electric generator and produce electricity.

The refueling involved replacing 88 of the 193 fuel assemblies in the reactor core. A fuel assembly is an 8 1/2-inch-square bundle of 12-foot-long metal tubes containing ceramic pellets of uranium dioxide fuel. Each fuel pellet is about the size of a pencil eraser. Used fuel assemblies removed from the reactor will be stored temporarily in the spent fuel water lined pool inside the fuel building. The pool — about the size of a tennis court — has enough space to safely store all the used fuel that accumulates at the plant until 2020, with the capability for additional storage capacity through 2024 when the plant's current operating license expires.

March Is Disaster Preparedness Month

Statewide Severe Weather Drill Set for March 14

The State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) and the National Weather Service (NWS) will conduct the **Statewide Severe Weather Tornado Drill at 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 14, 2006.** Every school, citizen and business is encouraged to participate in the drill by practicing seeking secure, safe shelter from a “tornado.” The NWS Pleasant Hill, Springfield, St. Louis, Paducah, and Memphis offices will send out the severe weather drill message.

If Missouri is experiencing statewide severe weather conditions, the National Weather Service will hold the statewide drill on the backup date, Thursday, March 16, 2006.

The statewide tornado drill takes less than 15 minutes to perform. Once the severe weather announcement is made, citizens are asked to seek shelter in the lowest level (basement if possible) interior room away from windows. Schools and businesses might seek shelter in basements, hallways or under staircases. The drill also highlights the importance of accounting for everyone in your home, class or office.

Governor Matt Blunt proclaimed March as Disaster Preparedness Month to recognize the work Missouri’s county and city emergency management directors perform to keep citizens safe from natural disasters.

Important Weather Terms

Tornado WATCH means watch the sky!

Tornado WARNING means seek shelter immediately.

SHELTER — if you are at home, school or work, go immediately to an interior room with NO windows on the lowest possible floor. If you are at school or work **DO NOT GO** to a cafeteria, gymnasium or large interior open space because the roof might collapse. If you are in a **mobile home**, leave it immediately — seek shelter in a nearby building or in a ditch. If you are **driving**, take shelter in a nearby building, in a ditch or low-lying area away from your car. **If you are outside, remember to cover your head with your arms, coat or blanket to protect yourself from flying debris.** Never try to out drive a tornado.

OVERPASSES Are NOT Safe — An overpass’s under-the-girder-type construction can cause a dangerous wind tunnel effect. This may cause the winds to be stronger and more focused underneath. This can also cause the overpass to be a collector of debris.

FLASH FLOODING or Water on the Road — During a thunderstorm realize that low-lying areas are prone to flash flooding. Never drive into water on the road. If your car stalls, get out of your car immediately and seek higher ground. It takes less than two feet of water to make your car float. Once floating downstream, your car can overturn trapping you inside.

A Flash Flood WATCH is issued when the meteorologist expects rainfall to be heavy enough

to produce flash flooding. The amount of rainfall needed to produce flash flooding is dependent on several factors. The most important of these are terrain, wetness of the soil and the stages of the affected rivers or streams.

A Flash Flood WARNING is issued when flash flooding is imminent or already in progress. If you are in its path, move to higher ground immediately.

THUNDERSTORMS may produce flash floods. Stay out of dry creek beds during thunderstorms. If you live near a river or stream, listen for flash flood warnings.

LIGHTNING -Outside safety: If you are caught outside in a thunderstorm, get inside a building or a car. If you must stay outside, keep away from metal, like golf carts, motorcycles, fences, metal lines or pipes. Stay below ground level, away from hilltops, open beaches or fields. And most importantly stay away from open water. Duck and cover your head to lessen your chance of being struck by lightning. Stay on top of weather conditions when camping, swimming, fishing, golfing or enjoying other outdoors activities.

LIGHTNING – Inside safety: Each year lightning kills more Americans than tornadoes or hurricanes. If you are inside a building, or even a car, your chances of being struck by lightning are slim. For personal safety, stay away from windows, floor vents, and electronic equipment, especially the telephone or computer.

Review Commission Completes Work, Submits Recommendations to Governor

The Missouri State Government Review Commission submitted its final report and recommendations to Gov. Matt Blunt. The Commission was established in January of 2005 to examine the executive departments from top-to-bottom and to make recommendations on how state government can address inefficiencies, achieve cost savings and provide better service. The last major government reorganization effort was in 1974.

“The Commission was very deliberate in its consideration of proposals to improve state government,” said Warren Erdman, Commission co-chair. “In an effort to provide transparency in our proceedings and substantial opportunity for public participation, the Commission convened 59 public meetings, took testimony from hundreds of citizens around the state, and considered over 500 specific proposals.”

The final report contains 84 recommendations. Many of the recommendations will require legislative action by the General Assembly to implement, while others may be implemented by executive order. Some would require constitutional change.

Chapter 8 of the Report deals with recommendations for Corrections and Public Safety pages 24-26.

Of special interest to SEMA is:

- Recommendation 73: DPS director will appoint all division directors that are not overseen by a Governor Appointed Commission. Statutory changes required.

- Recommendation 75: DPS shall assume leadership of overseeing a statewide emergency communications system

- Recommendation 78: SEMA shall be the lead agency in preparation for emergency response information. SEMA will assume the lead on Emergency Preparedness Guides in consultation with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.

- Recommendation 79: Division of Fire Safety and MERC should coordinate efforts in the area of hazardous materials training. The two entities should retain their separate training processes but should coordinate their efforts and explore potential future efficiencies.

- Recommendation 84: SEMA should report directly to the Director of DPS. Due to necessity for rapid and effective organizational response in time of crisis, SEMA should report directly to Director of DPS to improve coordination of public safety responders ...Statutory changes required.

Report and Recommendations of the 2005 Missouri State Government Review Commission is available on web site <http://review.mo.gov>.

2005-06 SEMA Training Schedule

Date	Title	Location
1/10-11/06	Principles of Emergency Mgt (PDS, POST)	St. Louis City
1/10-12/06	Exercise Design & Evaluation (PDS, POST)	West Plains
1/18-20/06	Emergency Planning for Special Needs (APDS)	St. Louis City
1/24-26/06	Mass Fatalities Incident Response (APDS)	St. Louis City
1/31- 2/2/06	Mass Fatalities Incident Response (APDS)	St. Louis
2/2/06	WMD Crime Scene Management	Memphis
2/6-9/06	Incident Command System T-t-T	Jefferson City
2/7-9/06	Exercise Design & Evaluation (PDS, POST)	St. Louis City
2/8-9/06	Community Mass Care Management (APDS)	Joplin
2/14-16/06	Basic Public Information (ADPS)	St. Joseph
2/22-23/06	Hazardous Weather & Flooding (APDS)	St. Charles
3/7-9/06	Exercise Design & Evaluation (PDS, POST)	Moberly
3/14-15/06	Emergency Planning (PDS, POST)	St. Louis County
3/22-23/06	Special Events Contingency Planning (POST)	Branson
4/4-5/-06	Evacuation & Re-entry Planning (APDS)	Cape Girardeau
4/11-12/06	ICS/EOC Interface (APDS, POST)	St. Charles
4/25-27/06	Effective Communications (PDS, POST)	Jefferson City
5/2-4/06	Homeland Security for Local Gov's (APDS)	Springfield
5/16-17/06	Leadership & Influence (PDS, POST)	Jefferson City
5/18/06	Decision Making & Problem Solving (PDS, POST)	Jefferson City
5/23-24/06	Principles of Emergency Mgt (PDS, POST)	West Plains
6/6-7/06	Hazardous Weather & Flooding (APDS)	Springfield
6/14-15/06	Developing & Managing Volunteers (PDS, POST)	Moberly
6/20-21/06	Special Events Contingency Planning (POST)	St. Louis City
6/21-22/06	Multi-Hazard Safety for Schools (APDS)	St. Louis County
6/28-29/06	Warning Communications (APDS)	Springfield
7/25-27/06	Basic Public Information (APDS)	Springfield
8/1-3/06	EOC Management & Ops (APDS, POST)	Jefferson City
8/9/06	WMD Crime Scene Mgt for Emergency	St. Louis City
8/9-10/06	Mitigation Planning for Local Gov't	Jefferson City
8/16-17/06	Recovery from Disaster Local Gov't (APDS)	St. Charles
8/22-24/06	Homeland Security for Local Gov't (APDS)	Sikeston
9/13-14/06	Resource Management (APDS)	Branson

Changes at SEMA

Promotions

Bettie Wingate is the Administrative Office Support Assistant in the Operations Branch.

Steve Besemer is the Earthquake Program manager in the Operation Branch. He previously served as a disaster assistance officer with the Planning and Disaster Assistance Branch within SEMA.

New Employees

Shelly Honse will be the Procurement Officer I in the Fiscal Branch.

Deanna Nolan will be the Account Clerk II in the Fiscal Branch.

Diane Bosworth will be the Administrative Assistant for Ron and Duane in Executive.

Angela Archer will be the Executive I in the Missouri Emergency Response Commission.

Patrick Duncan will be the disaster assistance officer or EMO III in the Planning and Disaster Recovery Branch.

Retirements

Rhua Ridenhour, Administrative Assistant in Executive, retired October 31, 2005.

George Riedel, Mitigation and Floodplain Management Branch Chief, retired December 1, 2005.

Congratulations

Pam Huhmann has a new granddaughter. Congrats!



SEMA Director Reynolds presents 10-year awards to Candy Adams (above) and AJ Lehman (below).



Debbie Sherman displays welcoming sign for German soldiers.

Missouri's State Agencies Respond to Hurricanes

SEMA Staff Deploy for Hurricane Katrina Response

By Roger Connell

Mitigation & Floodplain Branch

A photo can never tell the full story of "Katrina." Six members of the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) staff had the opportunity to lend a helping hand to various communities in Mississippi. Roger Connell and Dale Schmutzler, Floodplain Management Officers, George Riedel, Branch Chief, Floodplain Management/Mitigation, Randy Scrivner, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, and Dante Gliniecki, Statewide Volunteer Coordinator all worked in Mississippi. Bob Dopp, Executive Director, Missouri Emergency Response Commission (MERC) worked in Mississippi.

Roger and Dale worked with a number of the communities along the coast of Mississippi, assisting with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) information and the requirements for rebuilding along the coast. George worked with Hancock County, MS, assisting the county on a number of NFIP issues. Randy Scrivner worked with coastal communities regarding their mitigation issues.

Bob Dopp, served as an "A" team member, coordinating the EMAC teams being deployed to the area. As an EMAC coordinating team member, Dopp worked with the Sheriff's Association, National Guard and Fire, EMS, Volunteer groups, FEMA and State Agencies.

Dante Gliniecki worked on donations management, volunteer coordination and human services

support (mass care, sheltering, feeding, and resource logistics and management) in the Emergency Operations Center in Jackson, MS. Dante was deployed within days



the hurricane-making landfall.

The SEMA staff members helped the Mississippi and Louisiana communities thru the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC). EMAC offers state-to-state assistance during Governor declared state of emergencies. EMAC offers a responsive and straightforward system for states to send personnel and equipment to help disaster relief efforts in other states. When resources are overwhelmed, EMAC helps to fill the shortfalls. EMAC allows states to ask for whatever assistance they need for any type of emergency, from earthquakes to acts of terrorism.

The two-week shifts the SEMA staff spent in Mississippi and Louisiana assisting EMAC, state and local officials provided excellent hands on learning experience for each of the SEMA staff members.



Water Patrol's Assistance in to New Orleans "Katrina"

**By Sgt. R. L. Bledsoe
Public Information Director**

The Missouri State Water Patrol Officers have returned safely from their relief efforts in the storm-ravaged City of New Orleans. Ten Water Patrolmen with rescue and recovery boats were dispatched to the Louisiana gulf city to aid in the search for Hurricane Katrina victims. The mission of the Water Patrol was to go into New Orleans by boat and search for survivors trapped by floodwaters. Captain Bill Cox was in charge of the detail and he reported massive devastation to the city by flooding caused by Hurricane Katrina. Many of the buildings were destroyed and debris was floating everywhere. The floodwaters were grossly contaminated by the storm's flushing of the city's sewer systems and the occasional body of a victim killed by the hurricane's fury. There was no electricity and no operable sanitation system available, making living conditions in the flooded areas deplorable. As horrible as the situation was, there still were people stranded within the grip of the polluted waters.

"Our priority," Captain Cox said, "was to search every building and home for survivors and take them to safety." The rescue teams would go by boat from house to house searching for people trapped in the buildings. Many of the stranded

survivors were without food and water in the harsh environment and greatly appreciated the rescue efforts of the Water Patrol and similar agencies. There were a few, however, who refused to leave their homes. The officers would try to persuade the individuals to leave for their own protection, but the evacuation was entirely voluntary at the time. Special consideration had to be given to those with medical conditions due to medicine being in short supply. If an occupant refused to leave their home, they were given rations to sustain them; the buildings marked, and follow up rescue teams regularly stopped by to check on their well being.

The Water Patrol's search and rescue teams worked many hard and long days to complete their appointed task. Their efforts were not only hampered by the horrible conditions they had to endure, but also by the constant threat of possible sniper fire as they rescued victims.

Sergeant Dave Wall said, "It was horrible for the people in New Orleans. The devastation is the worst I have ever seen. I am glad we could help the people and make a difference in their lives." Although the rescue operations were tedious and difficult, it was estimated that over 250 people were brought to safety by the efforts of the Water Patrol and other rescue agencies.

16 Conservation Officers Respond to Louisiana Request

**By Glenda E. Verslues,
Safety Coordinator**

On September 2, the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) requested law enforcement personnel and boats from the Department of Conservation to

provide disaster relief assistance to Louisiana in response to Hurricane Katrina.

Protection Division mobilized staff on Friday night, and sixteen volunteers (two from each region) left from Cape Girardeau on Sunday afternoon to assist search and rescue operations in the New Orleans disaster area. The Cape Girardeau County Health Department updated immunizations for everyone prior to departure, and the team took along eight boats, necessary equipment, extra gasoline, and enough food and water to be self-sufficient for three days.

Regional Supervisor Ken West led the Department response team. They arrived in Baton Rouge



early Monday morning, and were housed at a large complex owned by Louisiana State University. There they made contact with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, which is coordinating efforts with other wildlife agencies. On Monday afternoon, Ken traveled to the deployment area near New Orleans, where he received additional instructions.

Our personnel have been teamed with members of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Law Enforcement Division and deployed by boat this morning in the St. Charles area of New Orleans, performing search and rescue

operations.

50 Missouri Highway Patrol Officers, 6 Communications Officers Respond to Mississippi's EMAC Request

**By Captain Chris Ricks
Public Information Director**

The Missouri Highway Patrol sent 50 patrol officers and six communications officers to support an Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) request for law enforcement assistance to Mississippi. The officers worked with local law enforcement officials providing security in Biloxi, MS.

The Missouri officers worked with New York and Nevada state troopers in Biloxi establishing curfews, working traffic control points, disturbance calls and rolling checkpoints. Additionally Missouri



troopers provided security for cleanup and construction crews in Biloxi. The Missouri troopers named their command post, "Show Me Relief" featuring an outline of the state of Missouri. Each of the deployed officers signed their names to their home patrol zone. The working conditions were hectic; heat, humidity, and dehydration were major concerns.

Health & Senior Services Active in Shelter Operations

**By Nanci Gonder
Communications Director**

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) expanded its daily operations and services in an effort to provide assistance to persons displaced by Hurricane Katrina. While hurricane response is not something that DHSS typically trains for, preparation for other public health emergencies and terrorist attacks allowed the department to quickly respond to this event.

During the hurricane relief efforts, the DHSS Department Situation Room (DSR) operated 24 hours a day, 7 days a week as a command and control center for public health issues. The DSR hotline, 1-800-392-0272, received calls from licensed medical professionals willing to volunteer to assist individuals affected by this disaster. DHSS also worked with numerous organizations across the state offering facilities and supplies for temporary shelters for displaced individuals including ambulance services and long-term care facilities.

Local public health agencies aided numerous displaced individuals and worked with many organizations in their local communities to provide service centers and shelters. These communities formed partnerships with local service providers to offer the best possible care for those affected. To date, Missouri has assisted over 15,000 individuals.

In addition, a shelter operation similar to a mini-city was prepared to accept 2,000 displaced Gulf Coast residents and offer them everything from medical care and clothes to recreation and Internet

access. The St. Louis Welcome Center was created as a result of a partnership between the State of Missouri, City of St. Louis and airport authorities, city and federal agencies



and many, many local organizations including the United Way, American Red Cross, Salvation Army, Mers Goodwill and many more.

DHSS was informed on September 12 that FEMA would be looking for individual housing for evacuees and no longer planned to send evacuees to other states.

Mental Health's Katrina Crisis Counseling Grant Approved

**By Lois Thomas,
Public Information Coordinator**

The Missouri Department of Mental Health's application for the Immediate Services phase of FEMA's Crisis Counseling Program (CCP) was approved on October 5, 2005, for services provided between 9/1/05 and 11/6/05. FEMA CCP services include outreach activities and individual and group crisis counseling, as well as community education related to emotional reactions after disasters.

While Missouri's grant application identified more than 15,000 Katrina evacuees as the primary outreach audience for CCP services, the department also recognized that CCP services were

beneficial to Missouri's emergency responders who were deployed to the Gulf Coast, their family members, and private individuals who sponsored evacuees in their homes.

The Missouri Department of Mental Health submitted a Regular Services Program grant application to FEMA to extend the CCP for an additional nine months. The name of the proposed grant project will be "The Lighthouse Project: A Beacon from the Show-Me State." While FEMA is reviewing the grant application, the Immediate Services Program has been extended indefinitely. The extension allows the mental health centers to conduct additional outreach and assist more evacuees.

To get additional information, to obtain copies of the fact sheet, or to make a referral to the Crisis Counseling Program, please call 1-866-840-3940.

Crisis Counseling for Alabama "Katrina" Survivors

By Jenny Wiley

MO Depart. of Mental Health

The Department of Mental Health's Jenny Wiley deployed to Alabama with the American Red Cross to work with Hurricane Katrina survivors. She said the experience would assist her in disaster readiness work for Missouri.



Jenny assisted in setting up, and dismantling Mega Service Centers, including a recreational area for

children in both Montgomery and Mobile, Alabama. Often as many as

1,000 people waited in line in extremely hot conditions to talk with a Red Cross Caseworker. Wiley talked with clients waiting in line and those who appeared to be upset when working with caseworkers. Toward the end of the first week she went on home visits to neighborhoods where there had been damage. At times the home visit brought only a damage inspection of the home, at other times Wiley said she was able to talk with people, provide brochures for parents and coloring books, crayons and card games for kids.

In her final days of deployment, Jenny was assigned to be part of a unit to "out-process" volunteers. Each Red Cross volunteer out-processes with a mental health worker before leaving for home to deal with their own emotional experience and learn lessons to improve volunteer experiences in future events. The volunteers shared many stories of courage and resilience that have come out of this tragedy.

MoDOT Workers Help Florida's Hurricane Wilma Recover

**By Melissa Black
Community Relations**

Seven Missouri Department of Transportation employees helped repair thousands of Fort Lauderdale, FL, traffic signals knocked out by the late-October Hurricane Wilma. It's the first time a MoDOT crew has been asked to help with any out-of-state disaster. The crew members returned home in time to spend Thanksgiving with their families.

The crew worked in Broward County, FL, where more than 2,800 signals were out of service at the time of the request. To help the process, the group took along the department's Mobile Emergency Response Vehicle,

which is loaded with communications equipment, three bucket trucks, a cargo trailer filled with supplies, and an emergency response trailer. The crew returned to Jefferson City before Thanksgiving.

John Diggs, statewide traffic communications coordinator from Jefferson City, lead the MoDOT crew of electricians Miguel Noriega and Larry Layton of St. Louis district, Larry Dill and Patrick Turner of Springfield district, Chris Weikel and



John Bickel of Kansas City district.

"The crew members had a strong desire to do the right thing and help people get their lives back on track," said Don Hillis, director of System Management. "We are blessed to have great employees who are willing to sacrifice time away from family and friends to help others in time of need."

Florida officials asked MoDOT employees to return after Thanksgiving to continue working. Two of the original group returned, along with five new volunteers from around the state. Currently, they are due back in mid-December.

Florida's state government requested the aid through Missouri's State Emergency Management Agency as part of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact.

Emergency Managers and Long-Term Recovery Organizations

**By: Dante Gliniecki
SEMA, Statewide Volunteer
Coordinator**

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita resulted in the largest long-term evacuation of a large U.S. city in history. Missouri has felt the impact of a hurricane disaster operation in an unprecedented fashion. This was due to the massive influx of nearly 17,000 Gulf state evacuees into Missouri.

Missouri has never engaged in specific mitigation and preparedness activities for hurricanes for obvious reasons (given the fact that Missouri is a Midwest state) but Missouri did support substantial mutual aid and federal deployment response operations and is undergoing intense recovery operations now and long into the future. Missouri was granted a Federal Disaster Declaration. Hurricane Katrina/ Rita is definitely a Missouri Disaster.

Currently there are at least seven long-term recovery organizations (LTROs) operating in Missouri. Their mission is to help integrate new Missouri residents from hurricane stricken areas into their new lives here in Missouri. These LTROs are located in Southwest Missouri, Southeast Missouri, Greater St. Louis, St. Charles/Warren/Lincoln Counties, Greater Kansas City, Boone County and Cole County. Other LTROs may arise as needed. These LTROs are generally operating successfully thus far and meeting most evacuees' recovery needs.

Whenever and wherever a LTRO springs up or activates from an existing Community Organization Active in Disaster (COAD) or Citizen Council, the role of local emergency management is critical. Recovery is one of the four traditional phases of

emergency management and is as crucial to emergency management success as any other phase.

With local emergency management support, LTROs have access to the latest information from SEMA and FEMA. Communications to elected and local government officials is facilitated. Resources are more readily identified and shared.

Emergency management is in stronger position to share its requests and its successes with the community both within the LTRO community and with the community at large. When local emergency management is at the LTRO table, there is engagement with partners, relationship building and strengthening of trust.

A true long lasting partnership can be strengthened. Moreover, the most important aspect is that local emergency management involvement will help meet human needs of the survivors of the worst natural disaster in U.S. history.

NOTE: SEMA is supporting the Hurricane recovery operation in Missouri just as it always has



supported recovery operations. The Hurricane Katrina/Rita operations are practically all focused on human services. Years of development, practice, experience and training has made the provision of human services in recovery operation in Missouri more effective however there are still many challenges to meet the needs of hurricane evacuees.

SEMA is working closely with Missouri Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (MOVOAD), the Missouri Disaster Recovery Partnership, and the Missouri Interfaith Disaster Response Organization (MIDRO) to support Missouri's 7 LTROs.



Structural damages in Biloxi, MS. photo by SEMA's Hazard Mitigation Officer Randy Scrivner.

Missouri Homeland Security Updates...

Blunt Signs Executive Order Establishing NIMS Standard for Emergency Management

Gov. Matt Blunt signed executive order 05-42 establishing the National Incident Management System (NIMS) as Missouri's new standard for emergency preparedness. NIMS will provide an across the board approach for federal, state and local governments to more effectively and efficiently work together to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from domestic incidents.

Blunt directed all executive departments to immediately incorporate NIMS into their emergency preparedness plans, policies, and procedures. He also directed for all departments to ensure appropriate personnel meet NIMS training standards defined by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security before Oct. 1, 2006. The departments must report compliance information to the director of the SEMA.

NIMS Training Compliance Reminder

**By Jim Charrier,
State Training Officer**

All jurisdiction's emergency responders, elected and appointed officials (that have a role in response or recovery functions during times of emergency or disaster) must be trained to the appropriate level no later than October 1, 2006 for your jurisdiction to continue to be eligible for any federal preparedness grant funding. All SEMA Staff took the ICS 100 and NIMS 700 classes on November 28 and 29, 2005, at SEMA.

The following vendors have contracts to provide all of the necessary courses in your jurisdiction or region and will provide this training during the normal workday, evenings or weekends. Just contact any of these vendors and they will be glad to work with you.

- Missouri Police Chiefs Association (MOPCA) Sheldon Lineback, 573-636-5444.

- Missouri Sheriffs Association (MSA) Mick Covington, 573-635-5925 Ext. 11.

- University of Missouri Fire & Rescue Training Institute (MUFRTI) Gary Wilson, 800-869-3476.

- St. Charles Community College Mike Penrod, 660-543-8718.

- Central Missouri State University (CMSU) Lita M. Pender, 636-922-8425.

- Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Government Training Institute (GTI) Kristine Martin, 816-421-4240.

- Please direct any general NIMS training compliance questions to Jim Charrier at 573-526-9120 or jim.charrier@sema.dps.mo.gov.

Missouri Homeland Security Council Initiatives

Department of Public Safety Director and Homeland Security Advisor Mark James spoke with members of the Joint (House and Senate) Committee on Terrorism, Bioterrorism and Homeland Security on the Missouri Homeland Security Council's initiatives.

Governor Mat Blunt signed Executive Order 05-20, which

established the Homeland Security Council to give oversight to the Homeland Security grant process, produce a comprehensive statewide emergency preparedness, response, and recovery plan for the Governor's signature. The executive order also directed state agencies to write continuity of government/operations plans.

Some of the Council's initiatives include:

- Implementation of a Missouri Information Analysis Center (Fusion Center) 24/7 intelligence gathering, analyzing and information dissemination to prevent terrorist activities.

- \$10 Million designated for a statewide interoperable communications equipment purchases designed as the basis of a common infrastructure.

- Updating the All Hazard Emergency Operations Plan to include a specific earthquake preparedness annex. The plan is being developed in conjunction with the 47 Missouri counties and seven neighboring states at risk from a New Madrid Seismic Event.

- Establishing regional Homeland Security oversight committees for information sharing between state and regional partners.

Fennwald Named Homeland Security Coordinator



Paul H. Fennwald was named the Department of Public Safety Homeland Security Coordinator, replacing Michael

Chapman, who resigned earlier this year. Fennewald was appointed to the position of "Homeland Security Coordinator" for the Missouri Department of Public Safety" by Governor Blunt in November 2005.

Fennewald, a retired Special Agent (Bomb Technician), spent almost 23 years with the FBI. The majority of his assignments have dealt with investigations involving bombings/WMD/terrorism, and supporting state and local first responders and their partnerships with the FBI in these areas. For all but the first 4 years of his FBI career, he was certified as a bomb technician. He also has previous bomb technician experience as a U.S. Army EOD Technician.

As part of the FBI Laboratory's "Rapid Deployment Team", he was deployed to Nairobi, Kenya soon after the bombing of the American Embassy in the fall of 1998 and the USS Cole bombing in the fall of 2000 to support those investigations. He also responded to support the FBI Investigation in New York soon after the September 11 terrorist attack in 2001. He has supported numerous domestic and international training initiatives relating to terrorism. He also supported a variety of national "special events" such as the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, and the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City.

After retiring from the FBI in January 2005, Paul became involved in teaching first responders how to respond to terrorist and suicide bombings through the Homeland Security ODP/New Mexico Tech training programs.

Missouri's Homeland Security Regionalization Imitative

By Teri Durdaller, DPS Communications Director

"Regionalization gives a voice to local communities and citizens across Missouri to ensure they are involved in how homeland security is coordinated, how security dollars are spent, and how their locality fits into the larger picture," said Governor Matt Blunt said. "Missouri's homeland security is a shared responsibility among the state and federal government and each county, community, local government, private industry and citizen."



The Department of Public Safety's Homeland Security Coordinator Paul Fennewald and State Emergency Management Agency Deputy Director Duane Nichols (left) are meeting with elected officials, first responders including fire, law, emergency management and emergency medical representative at various SEMA Area Coordinator meetings to explain Missouri's Homeland Security Regionalization

initiative. As the Winter SEMA newsletter goes to press, they have met with officials in areas B, D, E, G, H and I. They will be meeting with officials in areas F and I before the end of December, and more meetings are planned for January.

At the Area Coordinator Meetings, Fennewald and Nichols present regionalization information, answer questions, and receive feedback from local attendees. They stress that communication must be two-way between local communities and the state if a comprehensive homeland security strategy is to work.

"It is important for stakeholders at the grassroots level of the state, not just the major metro areas, to have their voice heard on the Homeland Security Advisory Council (HSAC) when it comes time to see how we are going to spend our shrinking resources," Fennewald said.

"Missouri believes regionalization will be the most beneficial, effective method of targeting federal homeland security grant funding for our state. As federal funding becomes less available, the need increases to use these funds for the greatest possible benefit of our people," he said.

Currently the Missouri initiative will use homeland security funds for a regional response to both terrorism and natural disasters, which the state feels will accomplish two positive outcomes.



The initiative will create regional committees using the existing nine Highway Patrol Troop Regions (A-I), the Kansas City metropolitan area (A-1), and the St. Louis metropolitan area (C-1). Each committee will be called a Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Committee (RHSCC). These committees will report directly to the Governor's Homeland Security Advisory Council (HSAC). A proposed makeup of the RHSCCs include 11 voting members and an Emergency Management Director, a Police Chief, a Fire Chief, Sheriff, and representatives from County Health, Homeland Security Response Team (HSRT), Public Works (City or County), Mayor's Office, County Commissioner, private industry, and an emergency management representative from the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and other disciplines may be included.

Mark James, Homeland Security and Public Safety Director, said the fine details of organizing RHSCCs will be refined after meeting with local partners in each region throughout the state. He said regionalization is a concept being tested in other states, and it is the most practical idea so far to get local viewpoints represented on the governor's Homeland Security Advisory Council.

FY2005 Homeland Security Grant Program Allocations

By Tom Mohr, Homeland Security Program Manager

The State Homeland Security Advisory Council met on September 16, 2005. The council decided that the FY2005 Homeland Security Grant would fund the Interoperable

Communications Grant for \$10 million, and the LETPP Grant for \$5.9 million

State Homeland Security Grant Program: Funding will be used for an Interoperability Communications grant. The State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) and the State Homeland Security Advisory Council Subcommittee for Interoperable Communications were tasked to determine what equipment is eligible for purchase and who will be eligible to apply for the grant. SEMA is tasked to work with both groups to develop the criteria and grant application package. A Peer Review group will be appointed to review the applications and make selections. SEMA will review the applications for grant compliance, develop the award documents, and administer all aspects of the grant. This will be an on-line application; jurisdictions will be contacted on how to access the on-line application.

Law Enforcement Terrorism Protection Program: The FY2005 LETPP funding will be used to purchase "Live Scan" finger printing system (electronic scanning of fingerprints). The Missouri Sheriffs Association and the Missouri Police Chiefs Association are developing a priority list of recipients for this system. A major condition of this program requires recipients to assume all yearly maintenance costs for the system (grant rules do not allow for these costs). SEMA will develop the award documents, the terms/conditions documents, and administer the program.

SEMA will work with the Missouri Office of Administration's Procurement office to obtain a contract for "Live Scan" system and have the unit "drop-shipped to the

jurisdiction. A contract at the state level for the bulk purchase will save a considerable amount of money. This savings will allow for the purchase of more units compared to each jurisdiction working individually buying the system. This will be an on-line application; selected jurisdictions will be contacted on how to access the on-line application.

SLGCP Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program (CEDAP)

By Tom Mohr, SEMA HS Program Manager

The Systems Support Division (SSD) within State & Local Grant CEDAP Program (SLGCP) is launching the next phase of the Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program (CEDAP) to provide smaller law enforcement and other emergency responder agencies working in task forces with equipment items that will enhance and support regional response, mutual aid, and interoperability of responder equipment. Equipment available in this phase includes defensive and protective equipment, detection, search and rescue equipment, information sharing and risk assessment software, and interoperable communications technology. Eligible applicants include agencies and departments not currently receiving funding from UASI.

Applications for this phase will be received on line at the SLGCP Responder Knowledge Base (RKB), hosted by the Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism (MIPT). Applications will be accepted **through January 13, 2006**. The CEDAP on line application is user friendly and easy to complete.

You may go to the SEMA Website to access detailed grant information and access the RKB. Read the CEDAP Briefing Book before you sign into the RKB. Sign into the RKB as a guest, go to “Search the RKB), highlight “Major Programs” and select “Homeland Security Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program (CEDAP)” this will take you to the CEDAP application.

SLGCP will notify successful applicants and schedule them for the required training and delivery conference, which will be held in the spring of 2006. If you have any questions about the CEDAP program the SLGCP Helpline at 1-800-368-6498.

Biannual Homeland Security Grant Reporting Readiness

By Debbie Rathert, SEMA Homeland Security Grant Staff

SEMA grant staff are preparing for the Biannual Reporting periods. As such, our electronic system will be closed effective December 12, 2005. If you are in dire need of expenses being processed after December 12, 2005 but before the end of the year, work closely with your grant manager. She/he will do their best to assist you. However, there may be limitations to their ability to process the paperwork. In addition, all grant staff will effectively be pulled to this project most of the time from December 12, 2005 through January 13, 2006. Again, we will do our best to assist you, but this is a labor-intensive process that the State is currently taking on for local sub-grantees.

Use of Code 10 in Disaster Response

**By Dennis J. Prevett,
Program Coordinator,
Department of Homeland
Security/ FEMA Region VII**

The use of plain language in emergency response situations is matter of public safety, especially the safety of first responders and those affected by the incident. It is critical that all local responders, as well as those coming into the impacted area from other jurisdictions and other states, know and utilize commonly established operational structures, terminology, policies and procedures. This is what NIMS and the Incident Command System (ICS) are all about. There are larger matters at stake here – achieving interoperability across jurisdictions and disciplines.

The plain language requirement is about the ability of area commanders, state and local EOC personnel, federal operational coordinators, and responders to communicate clearly with each other and effectively coordinate response activities, no matter what the size, scope or complexity of the incident. The ability of responders from different jurisdictions and different disciplines to work together depends greatly on their ability to communicate with each other. Everyone has to speak the same language – plain English.

The Department of Homeland Security will issue the National Incident Management System (NIMS) FY 2006 compliance requirements shortly. Concerning plain language and “10-Codes”, the following guidance will be issued:

- Incident response communications (during exercises and actual incidents) should feature plain English commands so they will

be able to function in a multi-jurisdiction environment. Field manuals and training should be revised to reflect the plain English standard.

- ‘10’ codes may continue to be used during non-emergency, internal department communications

State Exercise Initiative Saves Money, Efforts

The State Exercise Group goal is to create a statewide, long-term exercise program and calendar in order to make state homeland security exercises more efficient. One goal is creating an integrated five-year exercise calendar for all state and local agencies. The planning group’s mission is, “Develop and implement a statewide coordinated all hazard exercise program to enhance prevention, preparedness, response and recovery capabilities during times of emergency or disaster thereby ensuring the safety of Missouri citizens and vital resources.”

The group’s purpose is to enhance Missouri homeland security by:

- Coordinating state and local resources
- Ensuring exercises have all applicable agencies participating
- Ensuring funds are not spent on duplicative exercises
- Spreading exercise dates out so that exercises do not take place on the same day or too close to another exercise
- Scheduling exercises that cover a variety of scenarios (i.e. biological, chemical, radiological, nuclear, explosives).

Many agencies, both state and local, must conduct federal and state-mandated exercises throughout the course of the year. The

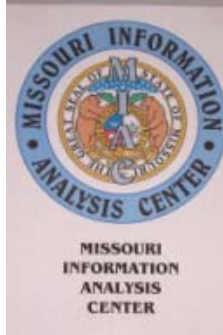
coordinating group will work with these agencies to make sure their strategic goals and objectives are still met under the umbrella of the statewide training program.

The State Exercise Coordination Group also discussed the importance of exercise evaluation, including post-exercise debriefings, and upcoming statewide exercises including a Busch Stadium exercise slated for 2006.

Participants in the State Exercise Coordination Group include the Missouri Departments of Corrections; Elementary and Secondary Education; Health and Senior Services; Higher Education; Insurance; Labor and Industrial Relations; Natural Resources; Public Safety, including Missouri Capitol Police, Fire Safety, Highway Patrol, Water Patrol, and SEMA; and Social Services; as well as the National Guard, including the Air National Guard; the St. Louis Area Regional Response System (STARRS), and the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC), and emergency management officials from both Kansas City and St. Louis.

***Sign Up for the
Crisis
Communications
and the
Spring Conferences***

Missouri Homeland Security Council initiative... Missouri Information Analysis Center



One of the initiatives of the Missouri Homeland Security Council is the creation of the Missouri Information Analysis Center (MIAC). The center will be co-located with SEMA for access to the State Emergency Operation Center (SEOC) at the Ike Skelton Training Site in Jefferson City.

The MIAC, also known as a fusion center is an Information Sharing Environment (ISE). It manages the flow of information and intelligence gathering. Specifically, the members of a fusion center are tasked with analyzing emerging terrorism related threats and circumstance requiring intervention by government or private sector authorities. The analysts collect and analyze information from law enforcement, fire, emergency medical, health, transportation, businesses and public safety specific to crimes, threats and hazards impacting the public's safety.

SEMA's Deputy Director Duane Nichols equates the MIAC as the equivalent of mitigation against terrorism. Emergency managers use mitigation to solve problems caused by natural disasters such as flooding, tornadoes or earthquakes.

Missouri's center is a an all crimes fusion center designed to collect, analyze and disseminate critical information to agencies tasked with homeland security responsibilities. The MIAC will disseminate the information in a timely, effective and secure manner.



The Missouri Highway Patrol's Intelligence Unit was the first initial component establishing the MIAC. This unit will continue to provide daily support to law enforcement agencies statewide. The unit moved into the 4000 square foot MIAC facility in mid-December. Over the next 12-18 months, the MIAC will experience a planned growth to include numerous databases and additional analysts from other local, state and federal intelligence gathering agencies. For example a forensic computer section will be added in the near future, while increasing the information gathering services available.



Homeland Security Response Teams Set up Subcommittee for SOGs

Representatives from the 26 of the 28 Missouri Homeland Security Response Teams were present at a December Steering Committee meeting at the State Emergency Operations Center.

A sub-committee was named to establish a Standard Operating Guide for the Homeland Security Response System. Following are the members of the sub-committee that were selected by their region or UASI: (A) Karen Eagleson, Emergency Mgt. Director, Johnson County HSRT, (A-1) John Spencer, Asst. Chief, Lee's Summit HSRT, (B) Don Crosby, EMS, Kirksville/Hannibal HSRT, (C) Greg Brown, Fire Chief, St. Louis County HSRT, (C-1) Bob Young, Emergency Mgt. Director, St. Louis County HSRT, (D) Mitch Randles, Deputy Fire Chief, Joplin HSRT, (E)

Jackson Bostic, Ozark Regional HSRT, (F) Susan Green, Emergency Management Director, Cole County HSRT, (G) Roy Sims, Asst. Fire Chief, West Plains HSRT, (H) Brian Carter, Operations Chief, Region H HSRT, and (I) Bryan Lewis, WMD Coordinator, Rolla HSRT

AJ Lehmen, SEMA State Exercise Officer, briefed the Committee on the Rolla Regional Exercise scheduled for early 2006, the Busch Stadium Exercise scheduled for summer, and the Spills of National Significance (SONS) Earthquake Exercise scheduled for 2007 (date to be determined).

Paul Fennewald, Homeland Security Coordinator for the Department of Public Safety, addressed the group for the first time. He thanked them for their dedication and hard work. He briefed the group on



the status of the HSRT Weapons Decon Procedures being reviewed by an HSRT sub-committee. The procedures are very preliminary and still under review. Military and FBI representatives are being consulted for their input.

Tom Mohr, Homeland Security Program Manager for SEMA, briefed the group on the status of the FY06 Homeland Security Grants and changes to the grant guidelines. Additional information regarding Homeland Security grants can be obtained from SEMA's website at www.sema.state.mo.us.

FY'06 Grants To Be Based Upon “Risk and Need”

By Tom Mohr, Homeland Security Grant Manager

The FY 2006 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) grant program will be developed along three lines, each state will get a “baseline” award, the federal government will assign a risk factor and states will develop a “need” factor as discussed below. This portion is competitive with the other states and territories.

To obtain FY 2006 grant funding the State must conduct a Program and Capability Review. This review includes both Urban Area Security Initiatives (UASI) cities (Kansas City and St. Louis) and the entire state. This review is intended to help States align their homeland security programs with the National Goal, seven Capability-based National Priorities*, and eight priority target capabilities, and to ensure that their programs are effectively organized and managed in support of the Goal. Further, this review enables States to identify their current program and capability strengths and weaknesses across their entire homeland security program through a qualitative analytical process. Additionally, the State will be allowed to address three to five other Target Capabilities as part of the statewide grant application.



The State will have to develop a Enhancement Plan that consolidates the analysis, strengths, and weaknesses that are generated from the Program and Capability Review. The Enhancement Plan will help the State direct its homeland security activities toward a holistic, interagency, interdisciplinary approach for their homeland security program. Furthermore, the Enhancement Plan will assist the State in prioritizing initiatives they wish to implement using preparedness program funding. As such, the Enhancement Plan must be submitted with the FY 2006 Investment Justification for HSGP funding. The Investment Justification allows the State, and both UASI cities to address up to 15 Initiatives that support the Capability-Specific National Priorities and Priority Target Capabilities.

During the months of January and February the State and the UASI cities will conduct a series of meetings to address the Capability Review, Enhancement Plan development, and proceed with the Investment Justification. SEMA will

then consolidate all the information and submit the information to DHS as part of the DHS online Grant Management System (GMS). The Enhancement Plan and Investment Justification have to be submitted to the by March 2, 2006. DHS will announce the awards by May 31, 2006.



*The FY2006 grant program has added an eighth National Priority: National Review of Emergency Operations Plans and the Status of Catastrophic Planning.